



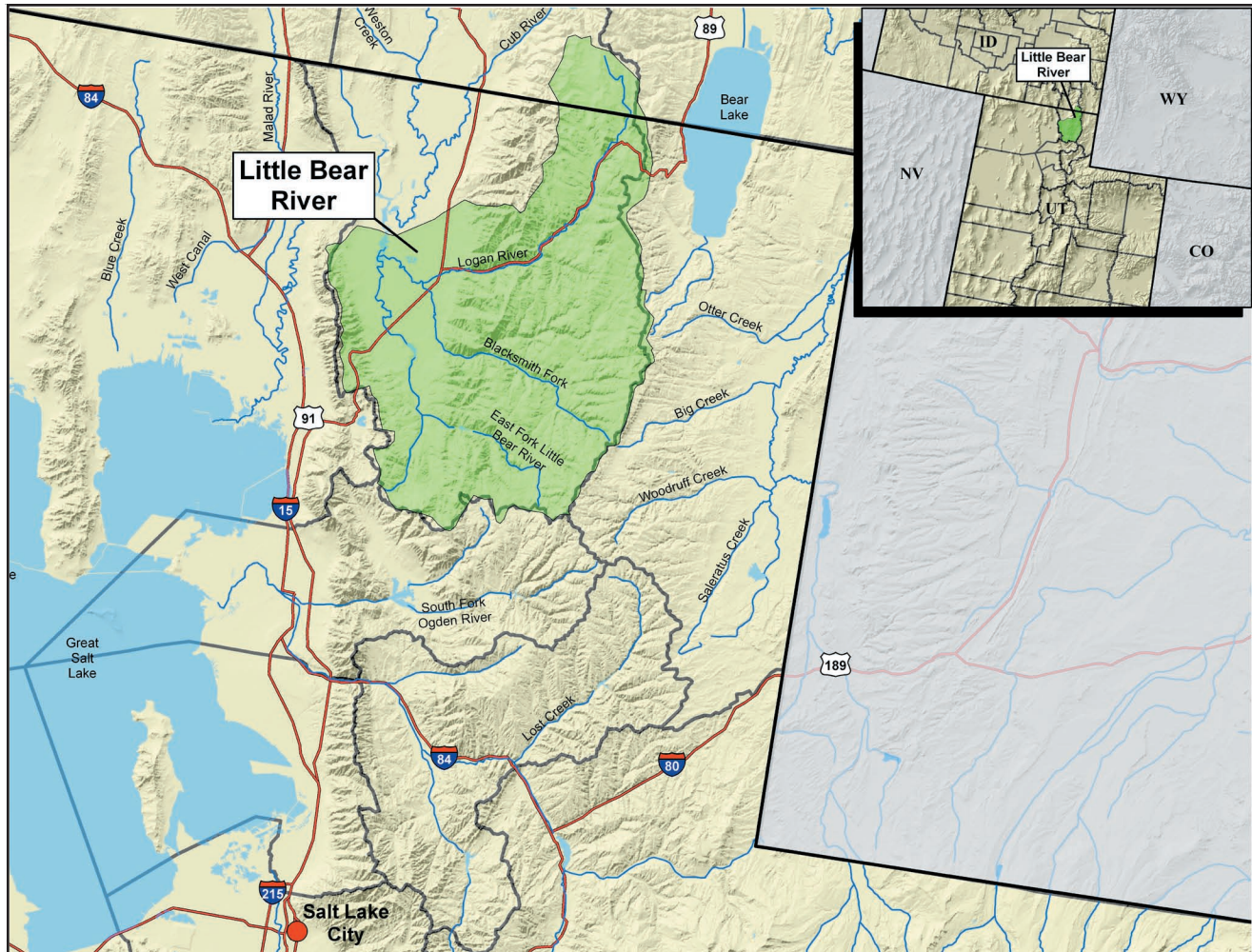
United States Department of Agriculture

## Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP)

### Watershed Fact Sheet

## Little Bear River Watershed, Utah: 2004-2005

A CSREES\* Competitive Grant Watershed, one of 24 CEAP watershed projects.



## CEAP Assessment

Determine whether conservation practices implemented since 1990 have reduced phosphorus levels.

- Watershed is a Clean Water Act Section 319 grant demonstration and monitoring project.

### Watershed Description

- 182,858 acres.
- Approximately 50 dairy farms.
- 70% range and forest lands, 26% cropland.
- A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) limit was established for phosphorus.

### Issues

Historically high phosphorus and sediment concentrations in river attributed mainly to agriculture.

\* Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service





Typical pasture land in the Little Bear River Watershed.

## Approach

**Water Sampling:** Phosphorus, sediment, flow, and turbidity

**Watershed Models:** PSIAC (Pacific Southwest Inter-Agency Committee), AGNPS (Agricultural Nonpoint Source Pollution Model), and EPIC (Erosion/Productivity Impact Calculator)

**Socio-economic Study:** Interview farmers to find out if the conservation practices changed their farming techniques.

## Communicating Results

Three annual progress reports, information to farmers and general public throughout project, and final report.

## Collaborators

- Utah State University Colleges of Engineering, Natural Resources, Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, and Agriculture
- Utah State University Extension
- Utah State University Water Research Lab
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



Utah Water Research Laboratory researcher Jeff Horsburgh making a water quality measurement in the South Fork of the Little Bear River.



Jeff Horsburgh making a water quality measurement in the Little Bear River during spring runoff conditions.

- Farmers, ranchers
- Utah Division of Water Quality

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